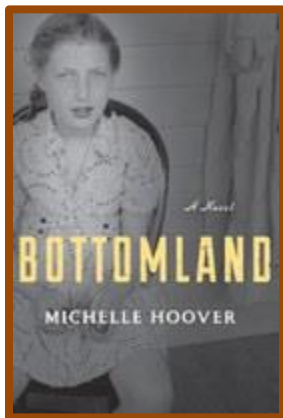




Today in EYE-OPENER October 24, 2016

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**1) Next “All Iowa Reads” Title Announced:** The 2017 All Iowa Reads title was announced at the ILA conference last week—Bottomland by Michelle Hoover. Described in the Minneapolis Star Tribune as “a mystery wrapped in isolation and ethnic fear,” Bottomland is based on the author’s real life story of her grandmother.

It begins in Iowa post-World War I, following the Hess family as they try to rid themselves of the Anti-German sentiment that tarnished their name. But when the youngest two daughters vanish in the middle of the night, the family fears the worst and must piece together what happened while struggling to maintain their life on the unforgiving Iowa plains. Told in the voices of the family patriarch and his children, this is a haunting literary mystery that spans decades before its resolution.

Michelle Hoover is an Iowa native, now living in Boston. She is the Writer-in-Residence at Brandeis University and teaches at GrubStreet, where she leads the Novel Incubator program. She has been a Writer-in-Residence at Bucknell University, a MacDowell Fellow, and a winner of the PEN/New England Discovery Award. Bottomland is her second novel.

The Iowa Center for the Book’s **All Iowa Reads** program fosters a sense of community through reading. Iowans are encouraged to come together to talk about a single book each year. Libraries, book clubs, and schools are encouraged to sponsor discussions of the title. Toward that end, the Center for the Book will sponsor a webinar in January to help launch the statewide discussion of Bottomland; Michelle Hoover will join the webinar to talk about her novel and its themes.

Note that the ICB and the State Library will provide multiple copies of the book and will start taking reservations once we've received all the copies. Libraries are welcome to call their District Office to reserve copies of Bottomland—but again, only after the multiple copies become available—we'll let you know when that is! In the meantime, learn more about the **All Iowa Reads** program and the 2017 title Bottomland here [www.iowacenterforthebook.org](http://www.iowacenterforthebook.org)

**2) Annual Survey is Ready:** This long awaited news comes from Scott Dermont—the **FY2016 Annual Survey** is finally ready ☺ Many technical issues beyond our control caused unfortunate delays this year. So because of the late release date, the completion deadline has been extended to **December 16**.



Scott writes: *"...the data you provide on the survey helps you and your fellow librarians compare library performance, justify budget requests, and describe the condition of public libraries in Iowa. Your data is also used by local, state, and federal officials to help them make funding and program decisions. Your efforts are important and they are appreciated!"*

The **Annual Survey** must be completed online, here's the link <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/a-b/statistics> Each library needs a user name and password. If you've misplaced or need that information, just contact your District office or Scott in Des Moines, we have a master list of every library's logins and we're happy to help with questions along the way.



**3) A Database Purchase Survey:** This news comes from Jay Peterson and concerns the **Iowa Academic Library Alliance / State Library Joint Database Purchase Survey**. That's a long handle, so Jay helps break it down with this explanation: *"... We have an exciting opportunity over the next several months to achieve a level of collaboration among Iowa libraries that we have not seen before. Certainly, Iowa libraries work together, but often within separate groups that don't directly collaborate. We know that libraries in many other states have a strong history of statewide collaboration which has led to significant joint purchasing...now Iowa is looking to partner with academic libraries in a statewide RFP—Request for*

*Proposal—with the goal of expanding database resources to all libraries in our state...”*

In partnership with the State Library, UNI, and ISU, the **Iowa Academic Alliance** will submit an RFP for a multi-vendor database package to interested vendors by March 2017. The current EBSCO base package used by many Iowa public and academic libraries would be replaced by the results of this RFP. For instance with EBSCO, three things could happen (a) EBSCO may or may not choose to issue a response to the RFP (b) any proposal they submit might be different than the current base package and (c) any proposal they submit might not be chosen.

Your answers to the database survey questions will provide valuable information as the **Alliance** develops the group RFP. Please take the time to complete the survey, giving us your honest feedback—we appreciate your input into this process!

Link to **Database Purchase Survey** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPCW6YR>

**4) Call For Presenters ILOC 2017:** The State Library’s **ILOC Team** recently released a “**Call For Presenters**”...one of those presenters might just be you! The **2017 ILOC Conference**—Innovative Libraries Online Conference—is scheduled for **January 19th**. The chosen theme is “**Lean Mean Library Machine**,” all about streamlining procedures and finding efficiencies.



Session ideas could include but are not limited to:

- office organization tips and/or time management tips
- stretching budgets
- focused programming, i.e. doing fewer programs aiming for larger audiences
- efficiency in work-place procedures
- accomplishing more in staff meetings and board meetings
- time-saving communication among staff, board, or among libraries in your county

We’re looking for **proposals** to be either 45-minute breakout sessions OR for 5-minute “hacks.” Intrigued by **Library Hacks?** The term is a spin-off of “life hack” defined as “... *any trick, shortcut, skill, or novelty method that increases productivity and efficiency, in all walks of life.*” [Wikipedia] So that’s the concept for **ILOC** purposes at least, to find people who will share tips, shortcuts, efficiencies, etc they’ve put into place in their libraries.

**All proposals are due by midnight November 3.** Full details and an application form are available here: <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/continuing-ed/iloc/iloc-presenter-form/view> Think about ways YOU have turned your library into a “**Lean Mean Library Machine**” then consider submitting a proposal as one of our conference presenters!



**5) Meetings / Events This Week:** This week's travels take many of us to the annual ARSL Conference in Fargo, ND (Association For Rural & Small Libraries) I've heard that about 40 Iowa library people will be there, myself included...back next week ☺

Close out October with these national webinars; find details and registration at this link <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-/continuing-ed/other-conted>

**October 25. 1:00-2:00PM. *Crime Fiction to Quicken the Blood*** sponsored by Booklist <http://www.booklistonline.com/webinars>

**October 26. 12:00-1:00PM. *First Aid for Time-Wasting, Energy-Sapping Meetings*** sponsored by O'Reilly <http://www.oreilly.com/webcasts/>

**October 26. 2:00-3:00PM. *Making Data More Powerful*** sponsored by Infopeople <https://infopeople.org/training/view/webinar>

**October 27. 1:00-2:00M. *Selecting the Right Products for Your Makerspace*** sponsored by Demco <http://ideas.demco.com/webinars/>



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